We claim:

1. Use of dichloromethane extract of medulla and peel portion of tuberous roots of Decalepis *hamiltonii* as anti-oxidant, wherein the said extract is mixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or an edible item.
2. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anti-oxidant property is preferably free radical scavenging activity.
3. A use as claimed in claim 2, wherein free radical scavenging activity is hydroxyl radical scavenging activity. .
4. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anti-oxidant activity is in the range of 4-47%.
5. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the extract is applied in the range of 100 to 1000 ppm.
6. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anti-oxidant activity of extract obtained from medulla is in the range of 30 to 45% when applied in a concentration range of 500 to 1000 ppm.
7. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anti-radical activity of extract obtained from medulla is in the range of 35 to 46% when applied in a concentration range of 500 to 1000 ppm.
8. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydroxyl scavenging activity of extract obtained from medulla is in the range of 36 to 47% when applied in a concentration range of 100 to 200 ppm.
9. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anti-oxidant activity of extract obtained from peel is in the range of 36 to 47% when applied in a concentration range of 500 to 1000 ppm.

10. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anti-radical activity of extract obtained from peel is in the range of 32 to 48% when applied in a concentration range of 500 to 1000 ppm.

11. A use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydroxyl scavenging activity of extract obtained from medulla is in the range of 43 to 49% when applied in a concentration range of 100 to 200 ppm.

12. A composition useful as an antioxidant comprising an effective amount of dichloromethane extract obtained from medulla and peel portion of tuberous roots of *Decalepis hamiltonii* Wight & Arn optionally along with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

13. Process for the preparation of antioxidant activity rich extracts of medulla and peel portion of tuberous roots of *Decalepis hamiltonii* Wight & Arn., said process comprising the steps:

    a) extracting the tuberous roots of *Decalepis hamiltonii* with the dichloromethane to obtain a primary extract, and

    b) concentrating the primary extract obtained from step (a) to obtain the anti-oxidant activity rich extract.

14. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein in step (a) the tuberous roots are surface sterilized by washing with 70% alcohol.

15. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein in step (a) the ratio of dichloromethane to tuberous root is about 2:1 by wt.

16. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the dichloromethane extract obtained from tuberous roots of *Decalepis hamiltonii* as an anti-oxidant having anti-oxidant activity in the range of 4-47%.

17. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the anti-oxidant property is preferably free radical scavenging activity.

18. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the free radical scavenging activity is hydroxyl radical scavenging activity.

19. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the anti-oxidant activity of extract obtained from medulla is in the range of 30 to 45% when applied in a concentration range of 500 to 1000 ppm.

20. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the anti-radical activity of extract obtained from medulla is in the range of 35 to 46% when applied in a concentration range of 500 to 1000 ppm.

21. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the hydroxyl scavenging activity of extract obtained from medulla is in the range of 36 to 47% when applied in a concentration range of 100 to 200 ppm.

22. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the anti-oxidant activity of extract obtained from peel is in the range of 36 to 47% when applied in a concentration range of 500 to 1000 ppm.

23. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the anti-radical activity of extract obtained from peel is in the range of 32 to 48% when applied in a concentration range of 500 to 1000 ppm.

24. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the hydroxyl scavenging activity of extract obtained from medulla is in the range of 43 to 49% when applied in a concentration range of 100 to 200 ppm.